

1 **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL**

2 **Structural analysis of influenza vaccine virus-like particles reveals a multicomponent**
3 **organization**

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5 **Dustin M. McCraw¹, John R. Gallagher¹, Udana Torian¹, Mallory L. Myers¹, Michael T. Conlon¹,**
6 **Neetu M. Gulati¹ and Audray K. Harris^{1#}**

7
8 **¹Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases,**
9 **National Institutes of Health, 50 South Drive, Room 6351, Bethesda, MD, USA 20892**

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12 #To whom correspondence should be addressed; E-mail A.K. H. (harrisau@mail.nih.gov)

13 [301-385-4061](tel:301-385-4061)

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17 **tomography, vaccine, assembly**

18 **Classification: Biological Sciences, Biophysics and Computational Biology**

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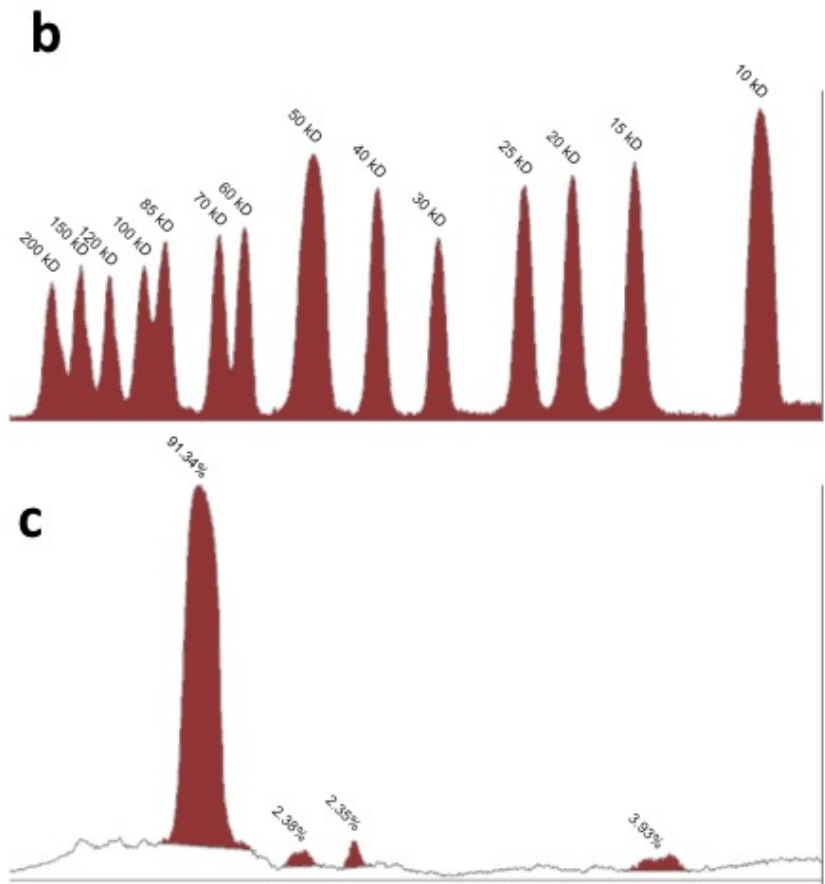
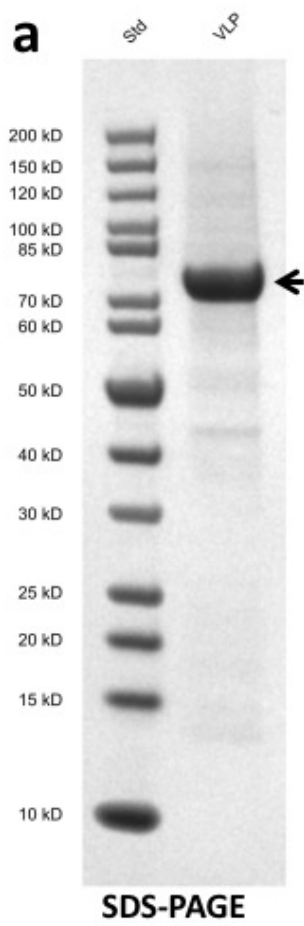


Figure S1

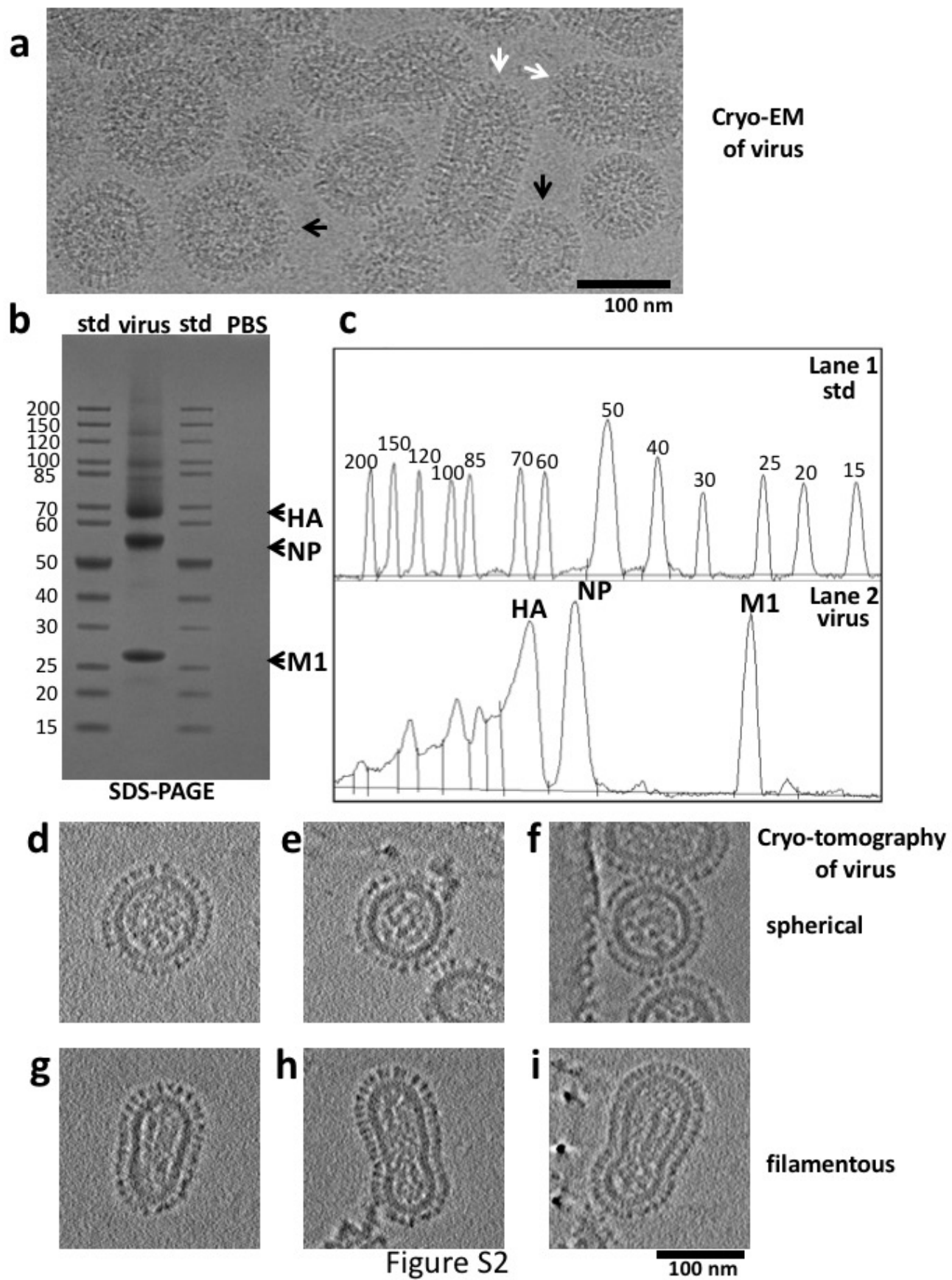


Table S1

TABLE S1. (Peptide Spectrum Matches) of 1918 HA H1 from VLPs						
INFLUENZA SERACH						
Accession	Description	# PSMs	# AAs	MW [kDa]	calc. pi	
P03455	Hemagglutinin OS=Influenza A virus (strain A/Swine/New Jersey/11/1976 H1N1) GN=HA PE=3 SV=1 - [HEMA_I76AI]	57	566	63.3	7.56	
Q9WFX3	Hemagglutinin OS=Influenza A virus (strain A/Brevig Mission/1/1918 H1N1) GN=HA PE=1 SV=2 - [HEMA_I18A0]	108	566	62.8	6.47	
Q82509	Hemagglutinin OS=Influenza A virus (strain A/Tern/South Africa/1961 H5N3) GN=HA PE=2 SV=1 - [HEMA_I61A0]	1	568	64.2	6.23	
P87506	Hemagglutinin OS=Influenza A virus (strain A/Mallard/Ohio/556/1987 H5N9) GN=HA PE=2 SV=1 - [HEMA_I87A1]	7	564	63.6	5.92	
Q6DPU2	Matrix protein 1 (Fragment) OS=Influenza A virus (strain A/Guinea fowl/Hong Kong/38/2002 H5N1 genotype X0) GN=M PE=3 SV=1 - [M1_I02A1]	1	245	27.1	9.42	
SF9 SEARCH						
Accession	Description	# PSMs	# AAs	MW [kDa]	calc. pi	
I7FV58	Ubiquitin OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [I7FV58_SPOFR]	1	76	8.6	7.25	
Q8WQJ5	40S ribosomal protein S8 OS=Spodoptera frugiperda GN=RpS8 PE=2 SV=1 - [RS8_SPOFR]	1	208	23.8	10.64	
C8CJY7	Triosephosphate isomerase (Fragment) OS=Spodoptera frugiperda GN=tpi PE=3 SV=1 - [C8CJY7_SPOFR]	1	105	11.4	5.22	
G3CKA6	Actin OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=1 SV=1 - [G3CKA6_SPOFR]	4	376	41.7	5.48	
Q95V36	Ribosomal protein S3 OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [Q95V36_SPOFR]	1	243	26.8	9.69	
G3CKA7	Alpha-tubulin OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [G3CKA7_SPOFR]	1	450	49.9	5.19	
Q8ISR0	Beta-1 tubulin (Fragment) OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [Q8ISR0_SPOFR]	1	56	6.8	4.5	
A0A0K2CTM7	Heat shock protein 70 A1 (Fragment) OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [A0A0K2CTM7_SPOFR]	4	178	19.5	8.07	
Q6B816	Histone H4 (Fragment) OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=4 SV=1 - [Q6B816_SPOFR]	1	43	4.9	11.31	
Q8I866	Heat shock cognate 70 protein OS=Spodoptera frugiperda PE=2 SV=1 - [Q8I866_SPOFR]	6	659	73.1	5.34	
Q9GQG6	90-kDa heat shock protein HSP83 OS=Spodoptera frugiperda GN=hsp83 PE=2 SV=1 - [Q9GQG6_SPOFR]	1	717	82.5	5.07	
X4ZE67	Actin-related protein Arp2 (Fragment) OS=Spodoptera frugiperda GN=ARP2 PE=2 SV=1 - [X4ZE67_SPOFR]	1	394	44.9	6.16	
BACULOVIRUS SEARCH						
Accession	Description	# PSMs	# AAs	MW [kDa]	calc. pi	
A0A097PV47	AcOrf-81 OS=Autographa californica nuclear polyhedrosis virus GN=AcOrf-81 PE=4 SV=1 - [A0A097PV47_NPVAC]	1	220	25.5	9.03	

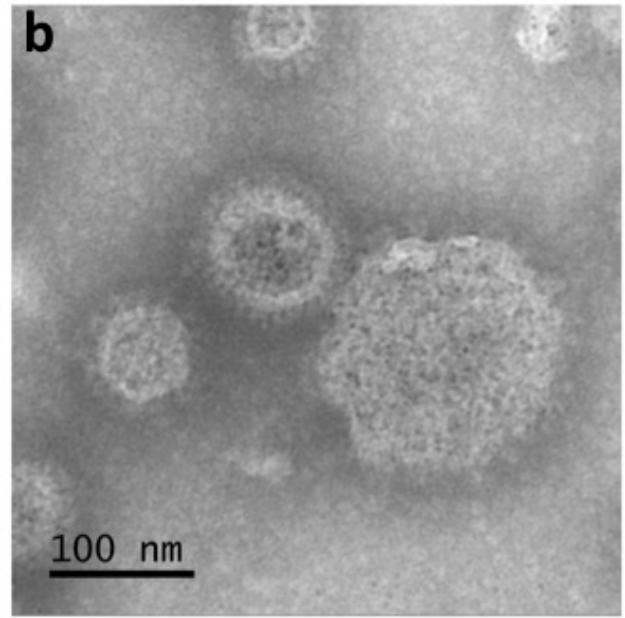
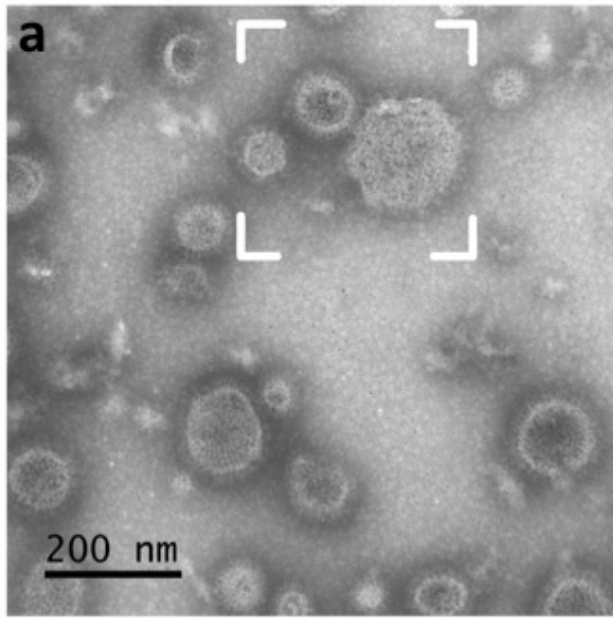
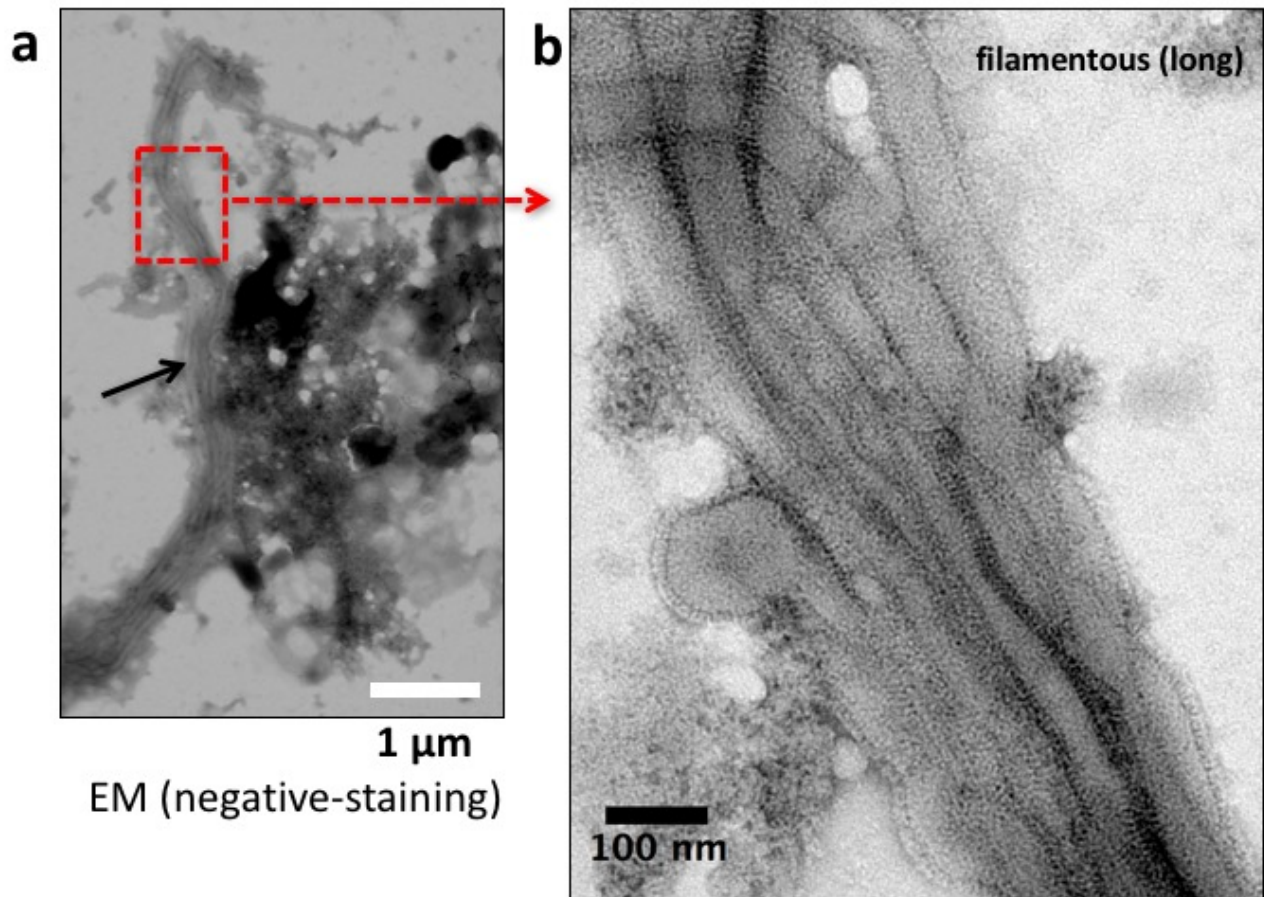


Figure S3

A/Victoria/3/1975 (H3N2) influenza virus



A/California/4/2009 (H1N1) pandemic influenza virus

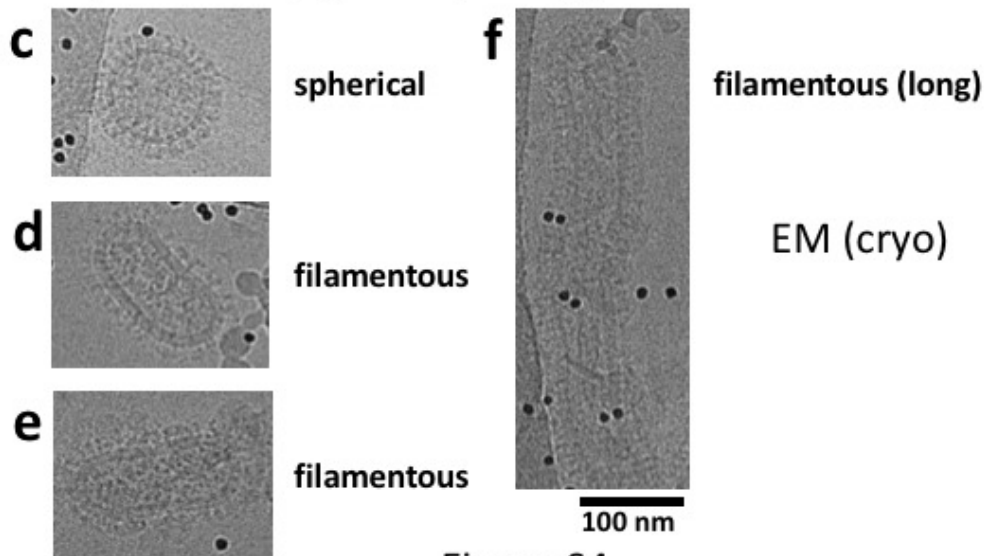


Figure S4

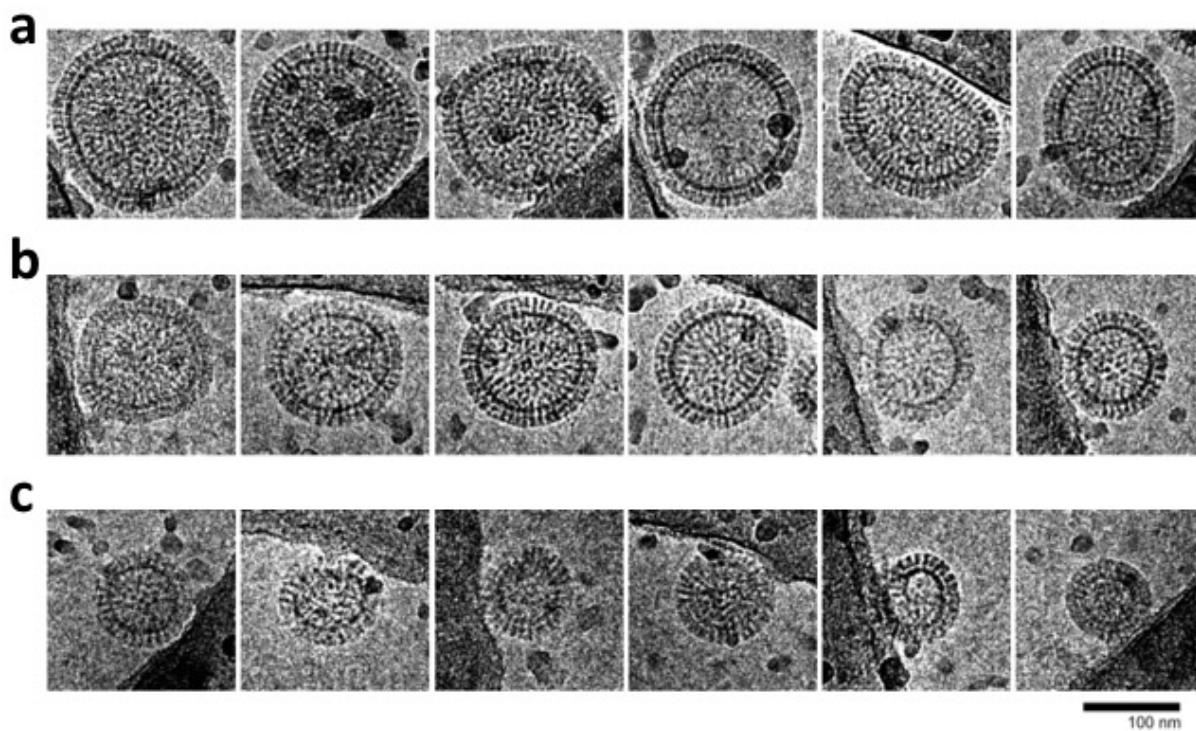


Figure S5

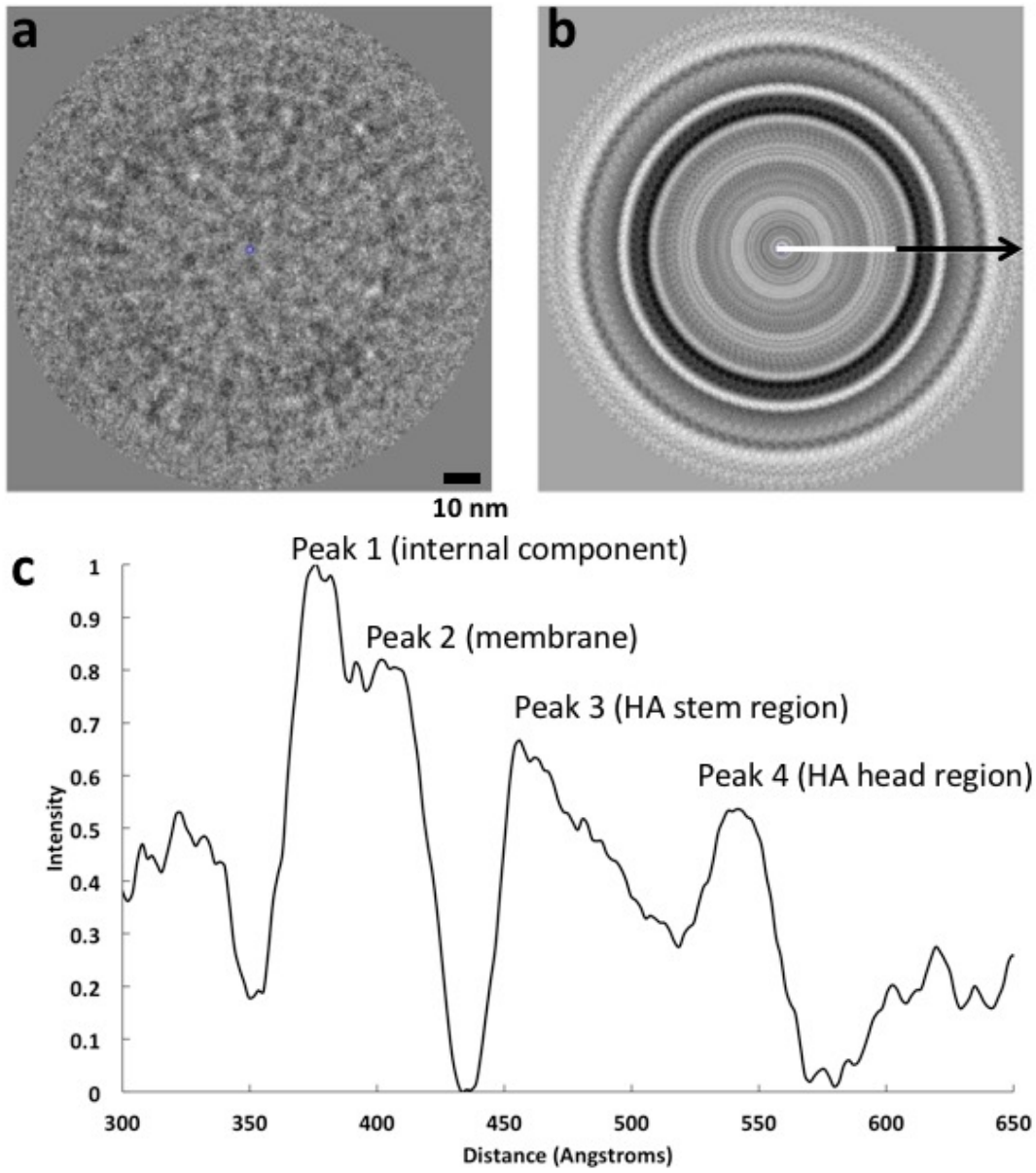


Figure S6

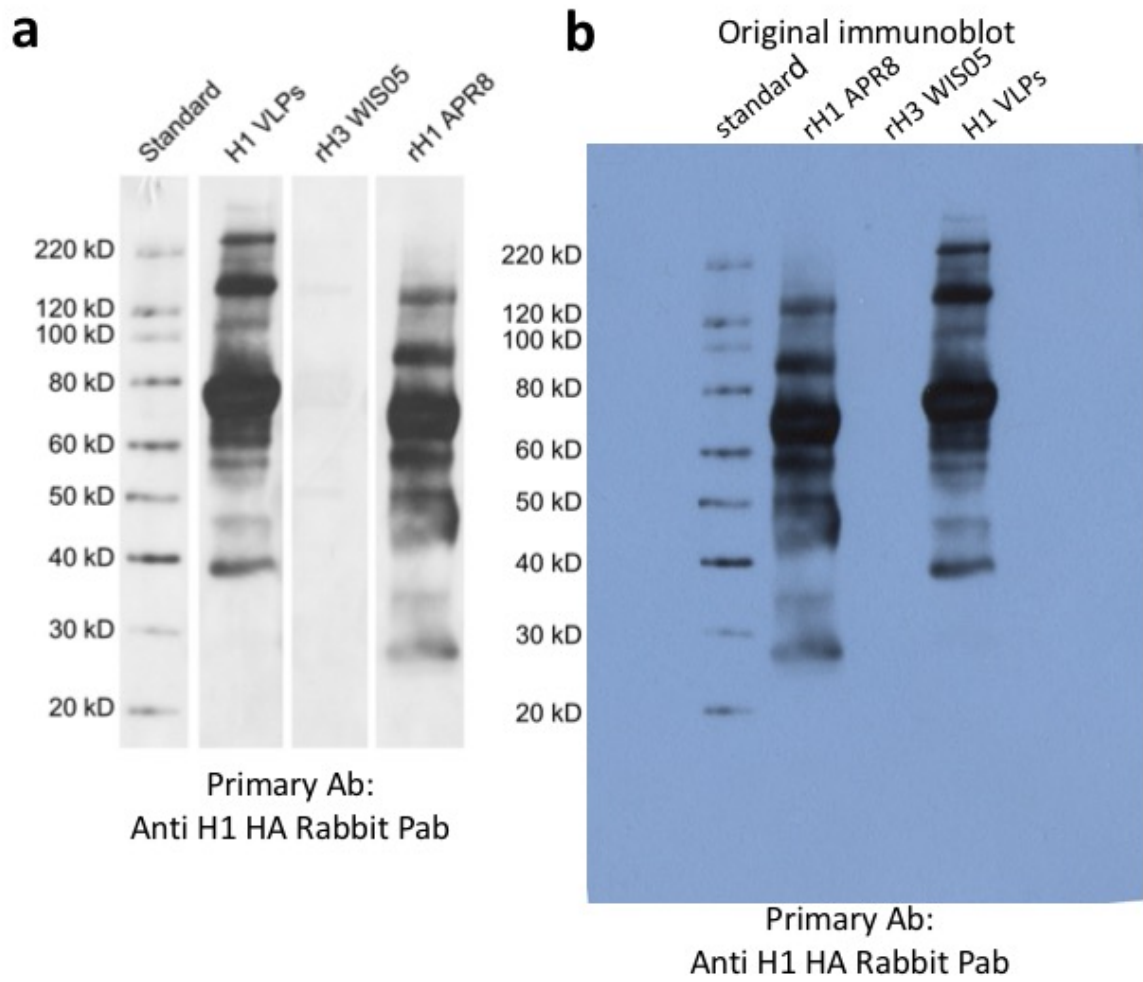


Figure S7

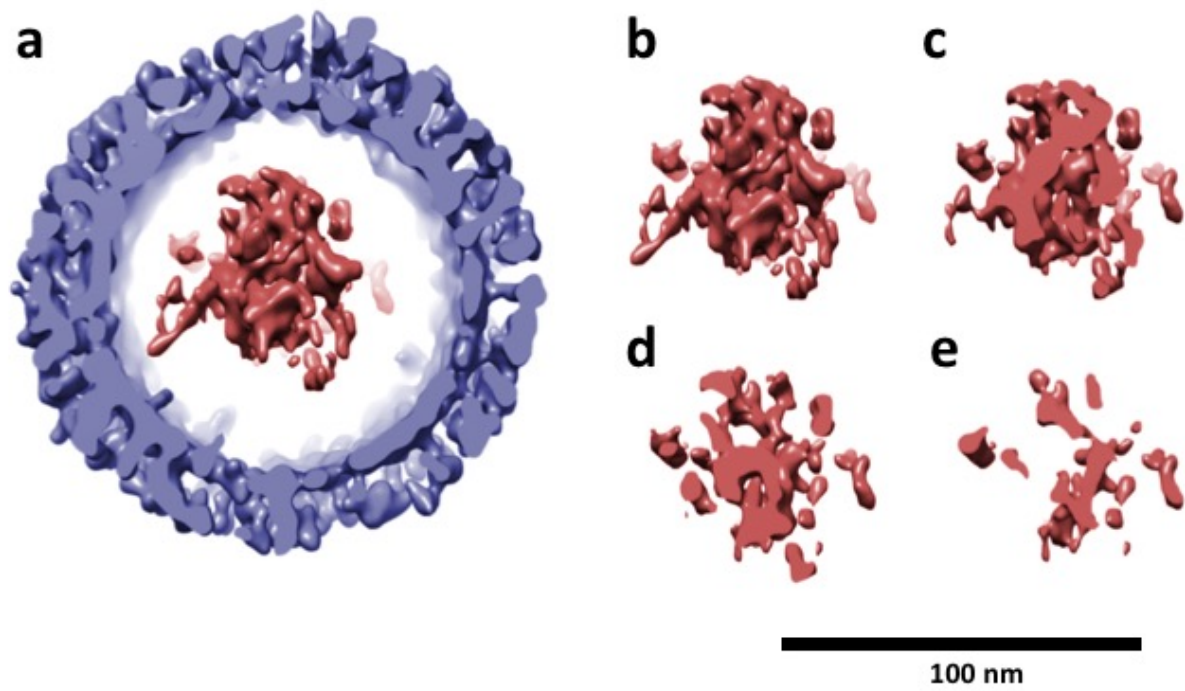
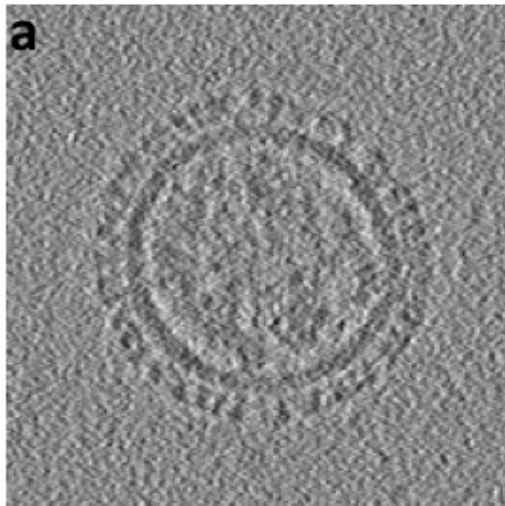
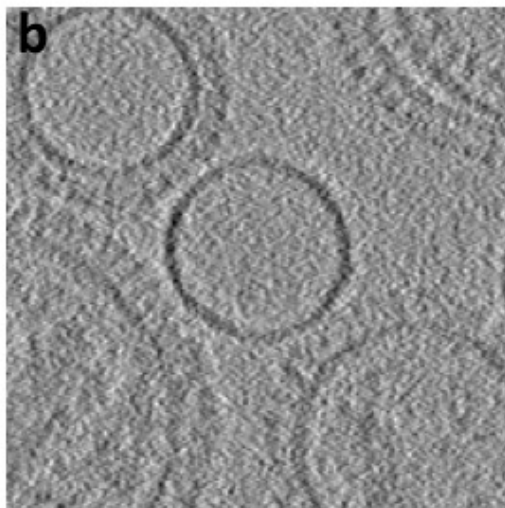


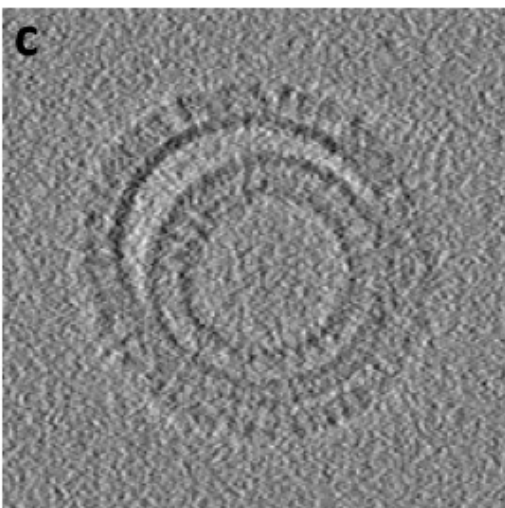
Figure S8



Virus-like particle (VLP)



Vesicle (surrounded by VLPs)



VLP (with internal vesicle with smaller VLP inside)

100 nm

Figure S9

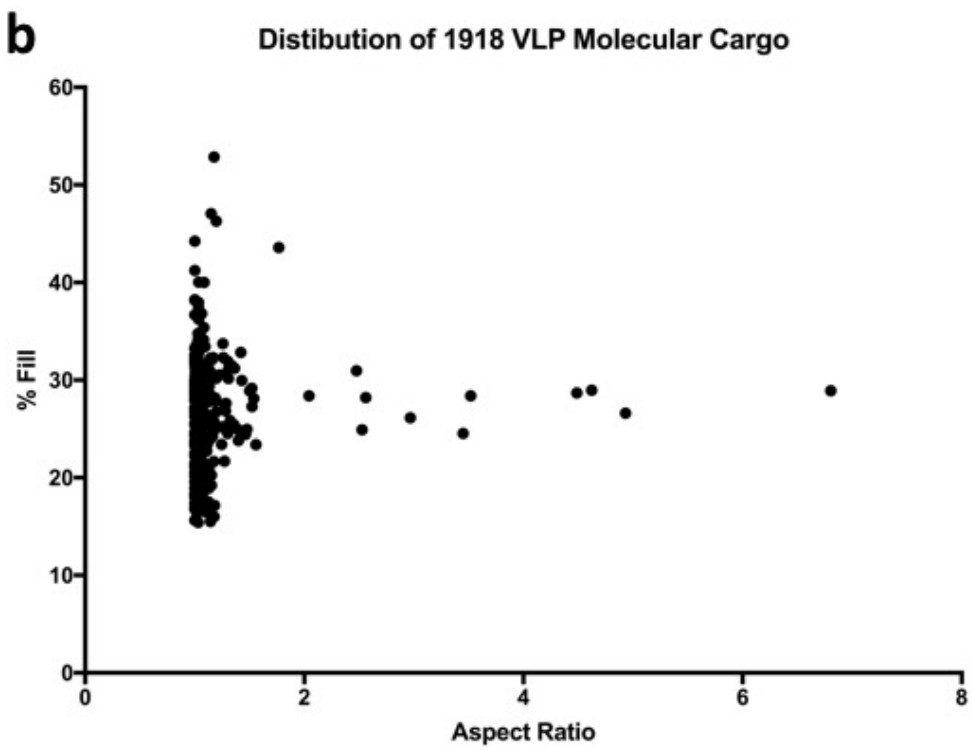
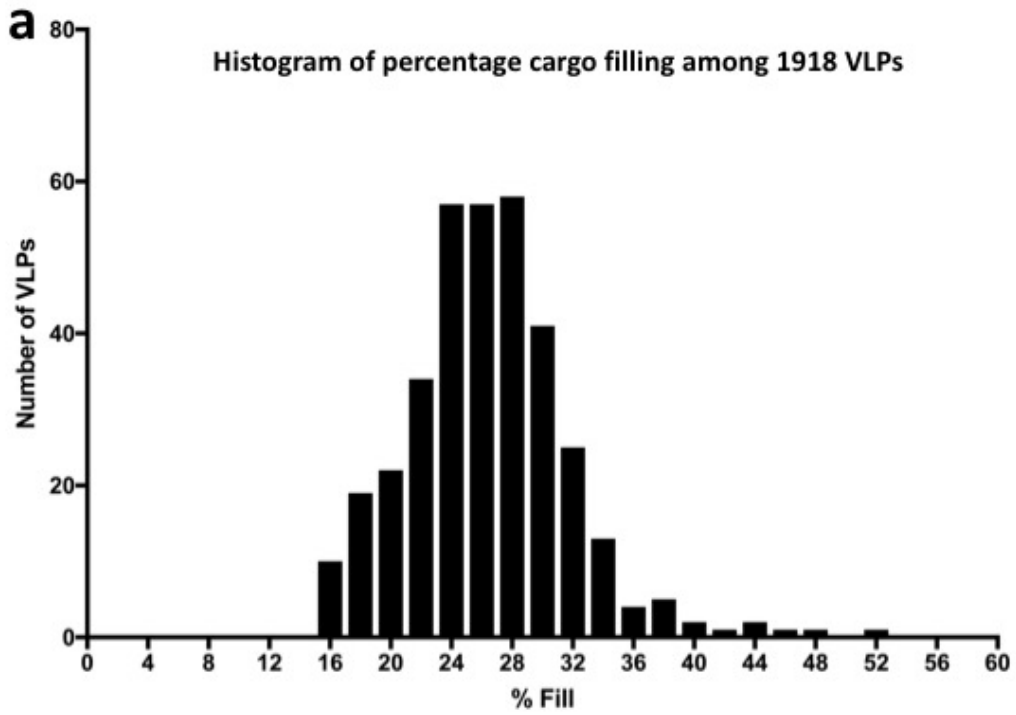


Figure S10



100 nm

Movie S1



100 nm

Movie S2



100 nm

Movie S3

41 **SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE CAPTIONS**

42 **Figure S1.** Analysis of composition and purity of hemagglutinin in 1918 influenza virus-like
43 particles (VLPs). (a) SDS-PAGE analysis of VLPs under reducing conditions. Samples are molecular
44 weight standards (std) and VLPs. A major band at an apparent molecular weight of about 75
45 kilodaltons is in the VLP sample. The major band is indicated by an arrow. (b) 1-D density profile of
46 protein standards with molecular weights as labeled. (c) 1-D density profile of 1918 influenza VLP
47 sample from SDS-PAGE in panel a. Areas under peaks are in red. Relative abundance was calculated
48 as the area under the peak above the baseline as compared to other background areas. The relative
49 abundance for each peak is as labeled. The hemagglutinin is the dominant component of VLPs
50 (greater than 91%).

51 **Figure S2.** Analysis of structure and composition of H1N1 influenza virus (A/Puerto Rico/8/1934
52 (H1N1)). (a) Image by cryo-electron microscopy of a field of virus particles with spherical and
53 filamentous morphologies. Some spherical (black arrows) and filamentous virions (white arrows)
54 are indicated. (b) SDS-PAGE analysis of virus with molecular weight standards (std) and PBS. Major
55 bands of structural proteins are at apparent molecular weights of about 75 kDa (hemagglutinin,
56 HA), 56 kDa (nucleoprotein, NP) and 27kDa (matrix, M1) in the virus sample. (c) (Top panel) 1-D
57 profile of protein standard with molecular weights as labeled and (bottom panel) 1-D profile of
58 influenza virus bands from SDS-PAGE. (d, e, f). Near central slices through 3D tomographic volumes
59 of influenza virions with spherical morphologies. (g, h, i) Near central slices through 3D
60 tomographic volumes of influenza virions with filamentous morphologies. Panels d to i are on the
61 same scale. Scale bars, 100 nm.

62 **Figure S3.** Analysis of virus-like particles by negative-staining electron microscopy. (a) Electron
63 microscopy images of 1918 VLPs negatively stained with 1.5% phosphotungstic acid at 52,000x
64 magnification. (b) Higher magnification (110,000x) of the bracketed region in panel a. Spikes are
65 observed on the surface. Image contrast is with protein as white. Scale bars, 200, 100 nm.

66 **Figure S4.** Filamentous morphologies of influenza viruses as observed by electron microscopy. (a)
67 Negative-staining electron microscopy of a field of long filamentous influenza viruses
68 (A/Victoria/3/1975 (H3N2) grown in MDCK cells. Scale bar, one micrometer. (b) Higher
69 magnification of the region boxed in panel a. Several filamentous particles are close together and
70 are hundreds of nanometers in length. Scale bar, 100 nm. (c, d, e, f) Cryo-electron microscopy of
71 2009 pandemic influenza viruses (A/California/4/09 (H1N1)) grown in embryonated chicken eggs.
72 (c) Virus with spherical morphology. (d, e) Viruses with filamentous morphologies. (f) Virus with
73 long filamentous morphology. Panels c to f are on the same scale. Scale bar for panels c-f, 100 nm.

74 **Figure S5.** Montage of examples of individual virus-like particles (VLPs) as observed by cryo-
75 electron microscopy. VLPs are arranged in order of largest to smallest. (a) Larger-, (b) medium-, (c)
76 smaller-sized particles. Most VLPs possessed a spherical or near-spherical morphology, but the
77 overall size of VLPs is variable. Image contrast is with protein as black. Panels are on the same
78 scale. Scale bar, 100 nm.

79 **Figure S6.** Analysis of density distribution of a virus-like particle (VLP). (a) Image of a spherical
80 VLP by cryo-electron microscopy. Scale bar, 10 nm. (b) 1D circular average of the VLP. An arrow
81 denotes the direction of the profile trace with the arrow as white for the inside and with the arrow
82 as black close to the membrane and glycoprotein region used in subsequent 1D profile analysis.
83 Image contrast is black. (c) 1D density profile of the circular average from the black arrow region in
84 panel b. The major peak regions are labeled with corresponding interpreted assignments to
85 internal, membrane and hemagglutinin components.

86 **Figure S7.** Reactivity of 1918 H1 hemagglutinin (HA) virus-like particles with antibodies by
87 immunoblot. Samples were probed for reactivity with an anti-H1 rabbit polyclonal as the primary
88 antibody. (a) Immunoblot with lanes from original immunoblot (panel b) separated into separate
89 panels for clarity. Samples were 1918 H1 HA VLPs, recombinant H3 HA (A/Wisconsin/67/05
90 (H3N2) and recombinant H1 HA (A/PR/8 (H1N1)). Major bands at ~75kDa were detected for H1

91 VLPs and recombinant H1 HA protein (positive control) while recombinant H3 HA (negative
92 control) was not reactive. The anti-H1 rabbit polyclonal antibody bound strongly to H1N1
93 subtypes, but not to the H3N2 subtype. (b) Original immunoblot without lanes separated into
94 individual panels.

95 **Figure S8.** Analysis of molecular regions of a virus-like particle (VLP) by segmentation of the
96 tomographic volume. (a) Segmented model of a VLP. The membrane and hemagglutinin layers are
97 colored in light blue and the internal component is colored in brick red. (b-e) The internal
98 component is shown alone with slices through the volume by increasing z-clippings. Panels are on
99 the same scale. Scale bar, 100 nm.

100 **Figure S9.** Comparison of virus-like particle (VLP) versus membrane vesicle by cryo-tomography.
101 (a) Slice through a tomographic volume of a VLP. (b) Vesicle surrounded by neighboring VLPs. (c) A
102 VLP with an apparent vesicle inside. The internal vesicle appears to have a smaller VLP on the
103 inside. VLPs have spikes on the surfaces while vesicles appear smooth and spike-less. Vesicles were
104 less than 1% of the particles observed. Panels are on the same scale. Scale bar, 100 nm.

105 **Figure S10.** Semi-automated analysis of influenza virus-like particles (VLP) tomograms in terms of
106 relative amounts of internal density (% fill) and relationship to VLP aspect ratio. (a) Histogram of
107 the relative amount of internal density filling each VLP. The distribution of the cargo has a peak at
108 28%, with the average molecular cargo fill being $26.4 \pm 5.4\%$. (b) Plot of the aspect ratio of the
109 VLPs against the % fill. VLPs were modeled as ellipses, and the aspect ratio was the length (nm) of
110 major axis of the ellipse divided by length of minor axis. Automated analysis of VLP subtomograms
111 computed the % fill of the molecular cargo for each of the 353 VLPs using a fixed density threshold.
112 All VLPs had internal density (i.e. filled to some extent). While the morphology of the VLP was
113 uncorrelated with the % fill, the amount of cargo was consistent with a random distribution
114 centered about 26%.

115

116 **SUPPLEMENTAL MOVIE CAPTIONS**

117 **Movie S1.** Movie that slices through a cryo-electron microscopic 3D volume (tomogram) of a 1918
118 H1 HA virus-like particle that is categorized with relative low amounts of internal components (i.e.
119 molecular cargo). Scale bar, 100 nm.

120

121 **Movie S2.** Movie that slices through a cryo-electron microscopic 3D volume (tomogram) of a 1918
122 H1 HA virus-like particle that is categorized with relative medium amounts of internal components
123 (i.e. molecular cargo). Scale bar, 100 nm.

124

125 **Movie S3.** Movie that slices through a cryo-electron microscopic 3D volume (tomogram) of a 1918
126 H1 HA virus-like particle that is categorized with relative high amounts of internal components (i.e.
127 molecular cargo). Scale bar, 100 nm.

128 **SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS**

129 **Semi-automation of VLP tomogram analysis for internal density**

130 VLP tomograms were cropped to display a 10 nm central slab for each VLP using the Chimera
131 package. Images were produced for each slab and the size and morphology of the VLPs was
132 calculated as described for the size and morphology measurements. Ellipses containing the interior
133 of the VLPs were analyzed using the Measure tool in Fiji. The % fill of molecular cargo for each slab
134 was measured by thresholding the density at a fixed value, and then calculating the area containing
135 cargo divided by the total area of the ellipse. In this case, internal VLP density computational
136 classified as 'low' was less than 23% filled, medium between 23-29%, and high greater than 30%.
137 Computational classification methods yielded 24% of VLPs classified as low, 42% as medium, and
138 34% as high, which is similar to visual classification methods and with the majority of VLPs having
139 internal densities like visual classification. Both analyses of VLPs indicated that the majority of the
140 VLPs contained internal densities.